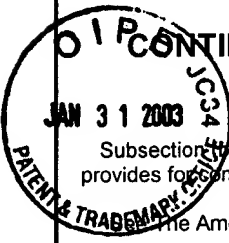


RCE / 2811 #



**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Application Number: 09/657,055
Filing Date: September 7, 2000
First Named Inventor: Noriaki FUKIAGE
Group Art Unit: 2811
Examiner: Hung K. VU
Attorney Docket Number: 08038.0024
Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

#17/RCE
2/6/03
Smith

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 11/25/2002
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on [Date]
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Enclosed:
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- iv. ☒ Other Petition for Extension of Time (Three month)

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of [number] months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

- a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:
- i. ☒ \$750.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Petition for extension of time for (Three month) \$ 930.00
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 1,680.00 is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Director is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

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Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: David W. Hill
Reg. No.: 28,220
Signature: *David W. Hill*
Date: January 31, 2003

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: [Date]

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Signature: _____ Date: _____